

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1. Request for Continued Examination:

The applicant respectfully requests continued examination of the above-indicated application as per 37 CFR 1.114.

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The amendments made to the claims in the above section are over the last entered amendment filed June 3, 2005.

2. Rejection of claims 1, 3-6, and 15 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b):

10 Claims 1, 3-6, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Satou (US 6,517,212) for reasons of record.

Response:

15 Claim 1 has been amended to overcome this rejection. The amended claim 1 now contains limitations precisely claiming the structure of the light source illustrated in Fig.2, and no new matter has been added. Claim 1 now recites that a cross section of the prism has a triangular shape, and that light beams from first and second beam generators emit and reflect light from specific optical planes of the prism.

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On the other hand, Satou does not teach a prism wherein a cross section of the prism has a triangular shape, and wherein light beams are emitted and reflected in the manner recited in claim 1. Instead, Satou teaches that prisms 28 have five (or six) optical planes, all of which are used for receiving light beams, reflecting light beams, or letting light beams pass out from the prism. Therefore, Satou does not anticipate all of the limitations of the amended claim 1. Claim 15 is dependent on claim 1, and should be allowed if claim 1 is allowed. Reconsideration of claims 1 and 15 is respectfully requested.

30 3. Rejection of claims 13, 14, 16, 17, 19, 21, and 22 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a):

Claims 13, 14, 16, 17, 19, 21, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Satou and further in view of Butterworth et al. (US 6,005,722, hereinafter Butterworth) for reasons of record.

5 **Response:**

Claims 13, 14, and 21 are dependent on claim 1, and should be allowed if claim 1 is allowed. Claim 16 has been amended in the same was as claim 1 in order to distinguish from both Satou and Butterworth. Claim 16 is patentable over the combination of Satou and Butterworth for the same reasons as claim 1.

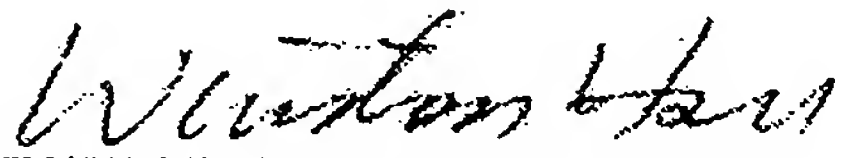
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Claims 17 and 22 are dependent on claim 16, and should be allowed if claim 16 is allowed. Reconsideration of claims 13, 14, 16, 17, 21, and 22 is respectfully requested.

15 In view of the above statements in favor of patentability, the applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Sincerely yours,

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